



27

\$2.25 US  
\$3.25 CAN  
FEB 97

# STARMAN



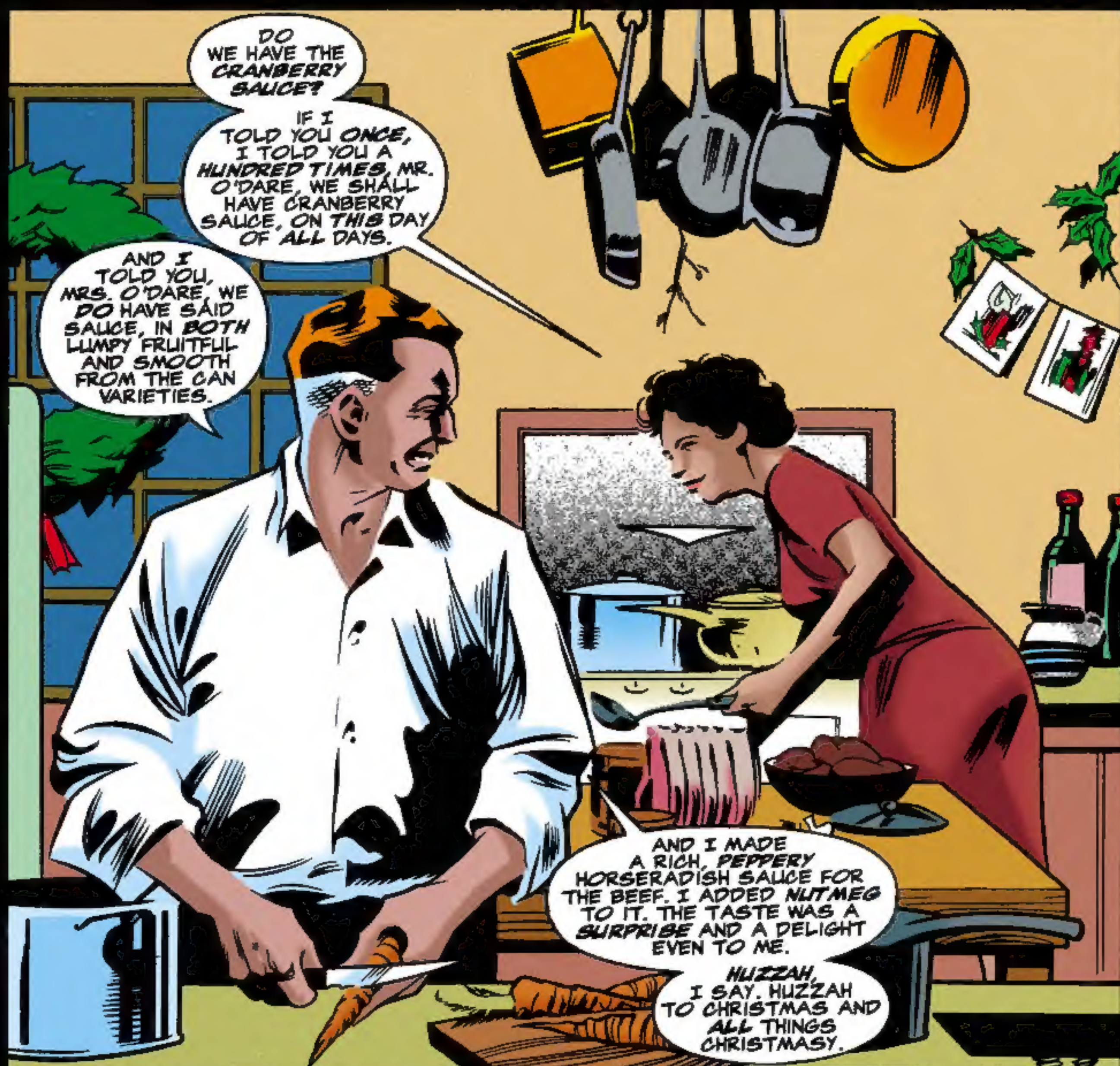
ROBINSON

YEDWELL

VON GRAWBADGER

Tony Harris '96





DO WE HAVE THE CRANBERRY SAUCE?

IF I TOLD YOU ONCE, I TOLD YOU A HUNDRED TIMES, MR. O'DARE, WE SHALL HAVE CRANBERRY SAUCE, ON THIS DAY OF ALL DAYS.

AND I TOLD YOU, MRS. O'DARE, WE DO HAVE SAID SAUCE, IN BOTH LUMPY FRUITFUL AND SMOOTH FROM THE CAN VARIETIES.

AND I MADE A RICH, PEPPERY HORSERADISH SAUCE FOR THE BEEF. I ADDED NUTMEG TO IT. THE TASTE WAS A SURPRISE AND A DELIGHT EVEN TO ME.

HUZZAH, I SAY. HUZZAH TO CHRISTMAS AND ALL THINGS CHRISTMASY.

HON.

YEAH, BABE.

OH BABY, YOU KNOW HOW YOUR TALKING LIKE A MEEK, UNPAID ENGLISH ACCOUNTANT GETS ME ALL HOT.

ARE WE DONE TRYING TO TALK LIKE MR. AND MRS. CRATCHIT, 'CAUSE I DON'T THINK I CAN KEEP IT UP FOR TOO MUCH LONGER.





COME ON, TRY FOR MOMMY. AND THERE MIGHT BE A REAL SPECIAL KIND OF FIG PUDDING, THAT I'VE GOT JUST FOR YOU LATER ON.

CAN I EAT IT?

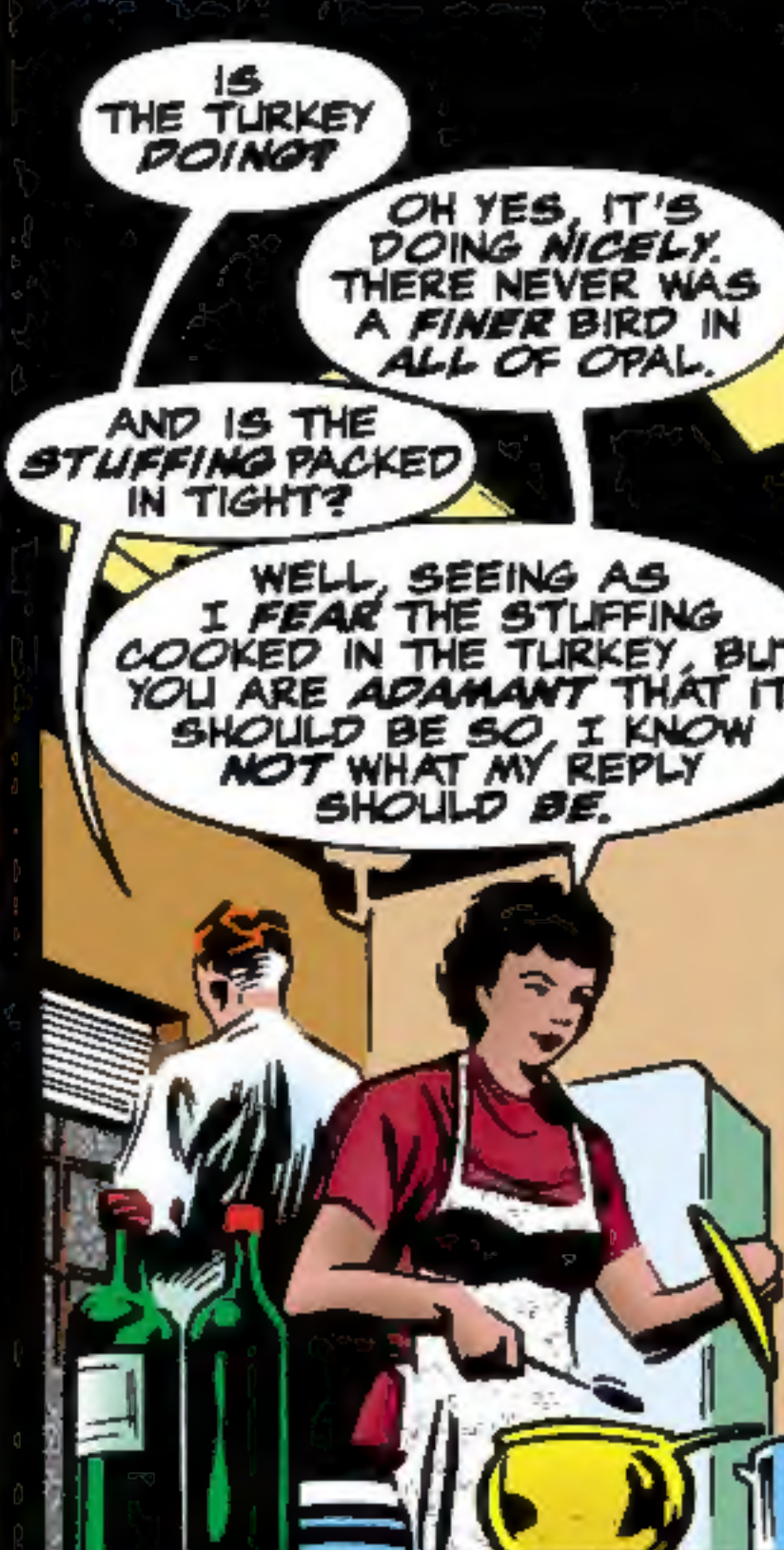
IF YOU DID, IT'D MAKE BOTH OUR CHRISTMASSES MEMORABLE.



OH MRS. O'DARE, YOU ARE A TERROR. SO RIGHT YOU ARE.



AND YOU MR. O'DARE, ARE A DIRE ROGUE, GOD LOVE YOU.

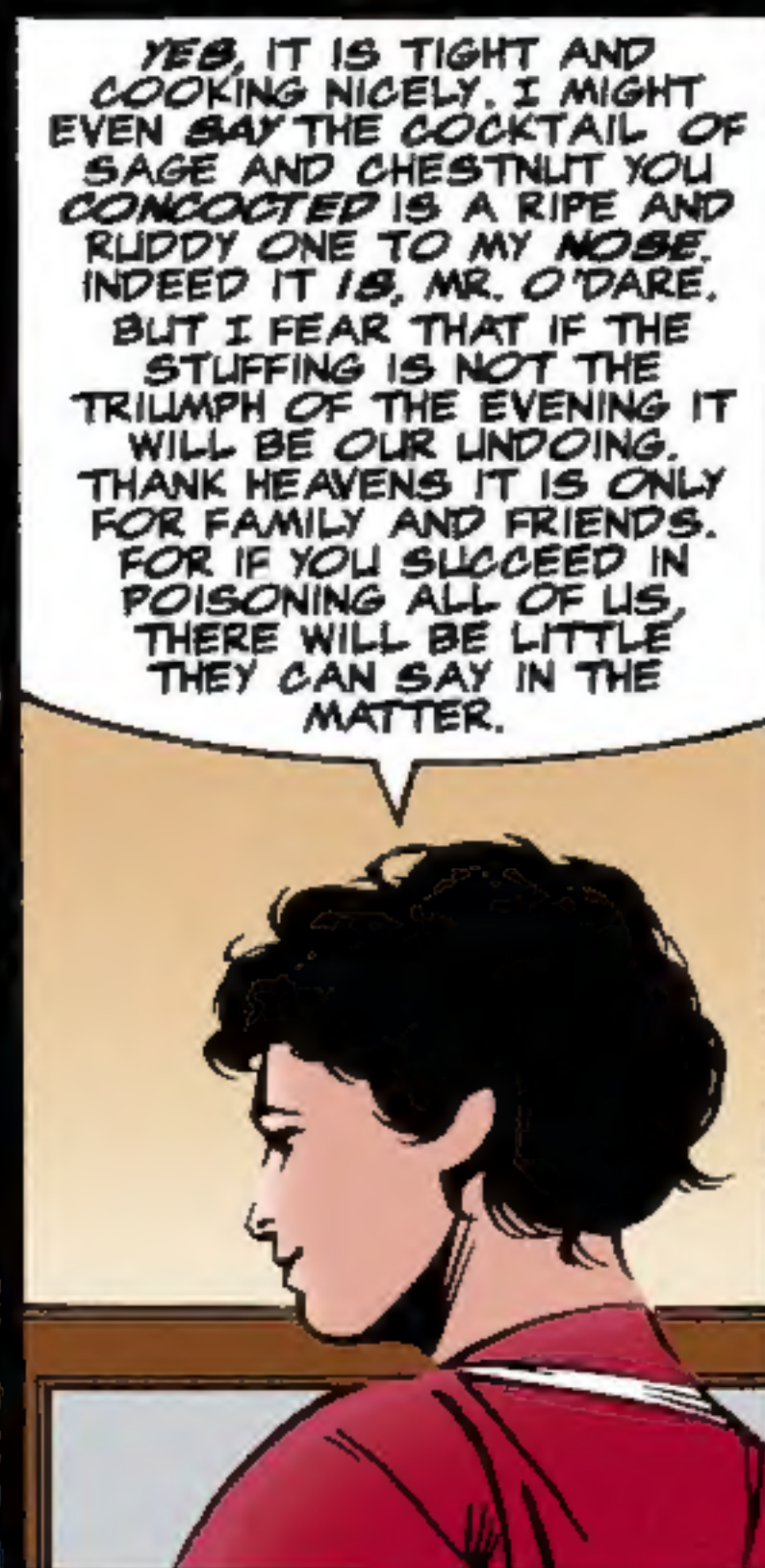


IS THE TURKEY DOING?

OH YES, IT'S DOING NICELY. THERE NEVER WAS A FINER BIRD IN ALL OF OPAL.

AND IS THE STUFFING PACKED IN TIGHT?

WELL, SEEING AS I FEAR THE STUFFING COOKED IN THE TURKEY, BUT YOU ARE ADAMANT THAT IT SHOULD BE SO, I KNOW NOT WHAT MY REPLY SHOULD BE.



YES, IT IS TIGHT AND COOKING NICELY. I MIGHT EVEN SAY THE COCKTAIL OF SAGE AND CHESTNUT YOU CONCOCTED IS A RIPE AND RUDDY ONE TO MY NOSE. INDEED IT IS, MR. O'DARE. BUT I FEAR THAT IF THE STUFFING IS NOT THE TRIUMPH OF THE EVENING IT WILL BE OUR UNDOING. THANK HEAVENS IT IS ONLY FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS. FOR IF YOU SUCCEED IN POISONING ALL OF US, THERE WILL BE LITTLE THEY CAN SAY IN THE MATTER.



WHEN ARE THEY COMING?

MASON SAID HE'D BE LATE. THE OTHERS SAID THEY'D BE HERE WITHIN THE NEXT HOUR.

OH, BUT JACK SAID HE'D BE EARLY. HE INTENDS TO MAKE A RASPBERRY CHAMPAGNE PUNCH.

CHAMPAGNE PUNCH. DELIGHTFUL. HAS HE MADE IT BEFORE?







HE CLAIMS THAT HE AND A FEMALE PERFORMANCE ARTIST HE USED TO SEE, SPENT ONE CHRISTMAS EVE IN BED WITH NOTHING BUT THAT AND CHINESE TAKEOUT. AND A GOOD NIGHT IT WAS TOO BY ALL ACCOUNTS.

ALTHOUGH COME TO THINK OF IT, THE GIRL MIGHT HAVE BEEN A BODY PIERCER INSTEAD.

OH, YES, THAT'S A VERY DICKENSIAN COMMENTARY.

BODY PIERCING AND CHOW MEIN. VERY BARNABY RUDGE.



SORRY, HON, BUT YOU KNOW JACK.

NO, ACTUALLY I DON'T.

OH, YEAH, I FORGOT, HE HASN'T HAD THE FULL O'DARE FAMILY TREATMENT.

WELL, YOU'LL MEET HIM SOON...



"...HE SHOULD BE HERE ANY MINUTE."

GOTTA BOOK.

I'M LATE. SHOULDN'T HAVE WATCHED THAT MOVIE. CHRISTMAS MOVIES ARE ON EVERY YEAR. THE SAME. BUT ALISTAIR SIM. YOU CAN'T BEAT HIM.



ALL I HAVE TO DO IS PICK UP THE CHAMPAGNE, THE RASPBERRIES AND THE SORBET. IT WON'T TAKE LONG AND--

UH-OH. WHAT'S--



OR RATHER, WHO'S THAT?



DAMN, NOW I KNOW I'M GOING TO BE LATE.

BUT HOW CAN I NOT STOP AND SEE WHAT'S WRONG...



...WHEN SANTA  
CLAUS IS CRYING?

# Christmas Knight

James Robinson  
writer

Wade Von Grawbadger-inks

Pat Garrahy  
colors

Chuck Kim  
assistant editor

Jack Knight created by James Robinson

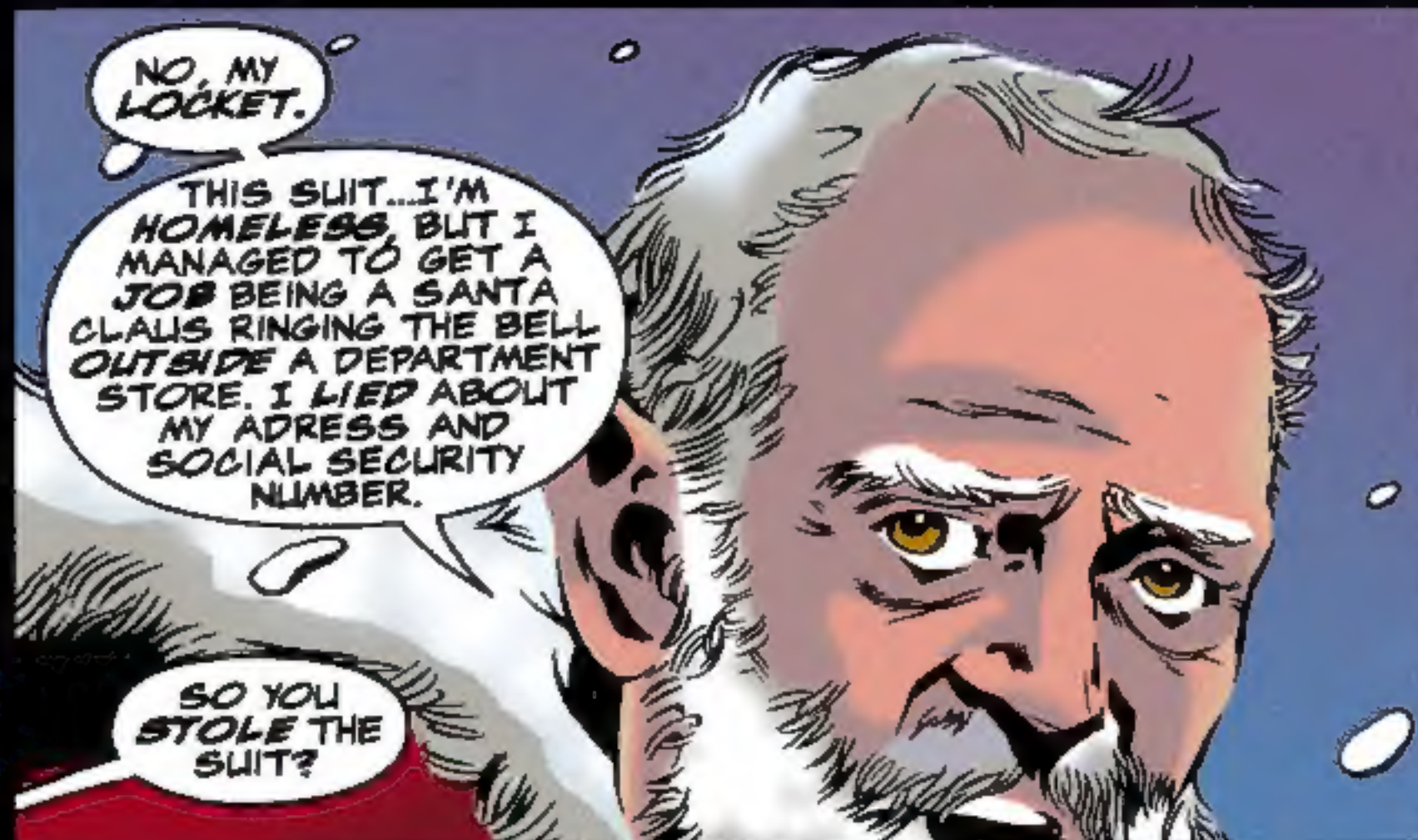
Steve Yowell  
guest pencils

Oakley/N.J.Q.  
letters

Archie Goodman  
editor











I BEGAN  
TO DRINK.

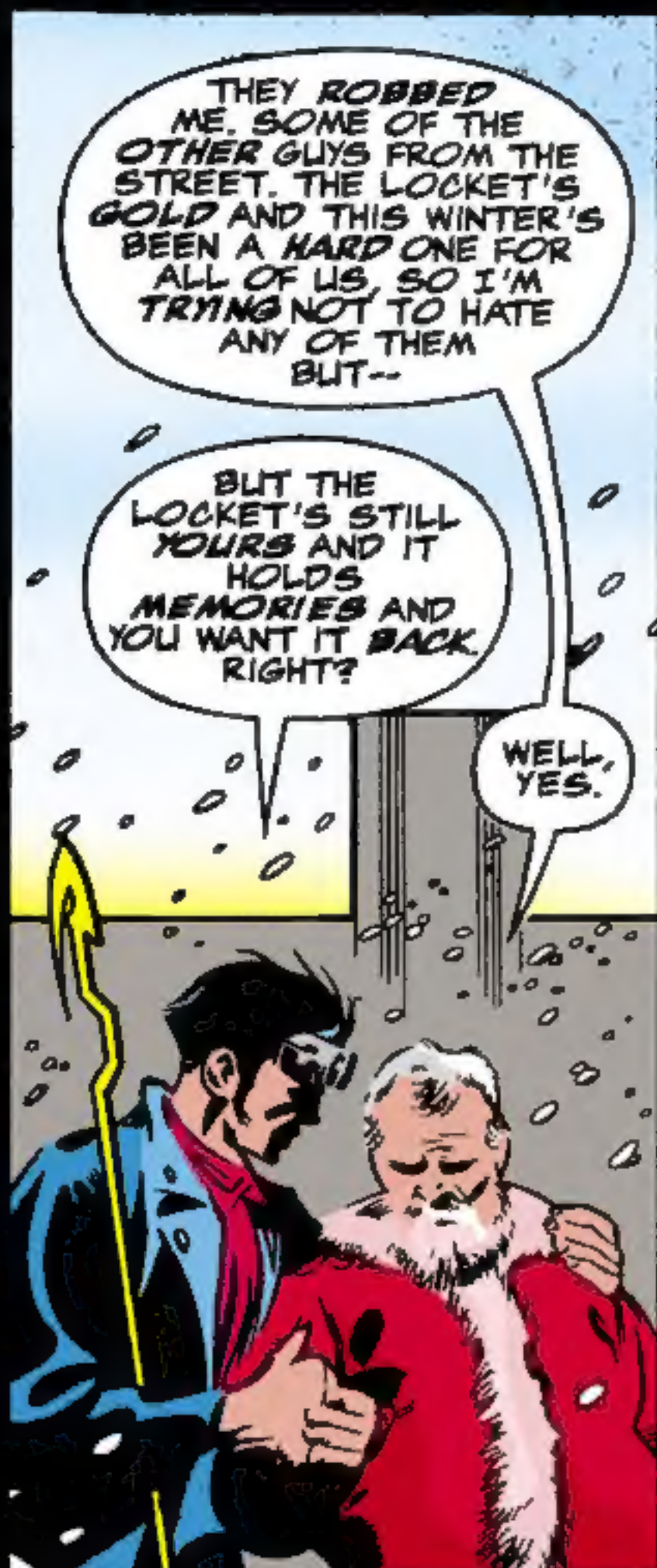
ONE NIGHT I  
FELL ASLEEP WITH A  
CIGARETTE. THERE WAS A  
FIRE. I GOT OUT ALIVE, BUT  
EVERYTHING I HAD WAS  
DESTROYED. THE HOUSE WAS  
ALREADY BEING FORECLOSED  
ON AT THE TIME, SO THAT  
WASN'T SUCH A LOSS, BUT  
ALL MY PHOTOS AND  
MEMENTOS OF MY  
FAMILY...



...THAT  
WAS THE  
LOSS.

THE LOCKET  
AROUND MY NECK HAD  
A PHOTO OF THEM. MY  
ONLY PHOTO. I'VE BEEN  
IN FIRE TIMES SINCE,  
BUT NEVER ONCE DID I  
THINK OF PAWNING OR  
SELLING IT.

SO HOW  
DID IT GET  
LOST?



THEY ROBBED  
ME. SOME OF THE  
OTHER GUYS FROM THE  
STREET. THE LOCKET'S  
GOLD AND THIS WINTER'S  
BEEN A HARD ONE FOR  
ALL OF US, SO I'M  
TRYING NOT TO HATE  
ANY OF THEM  
BUT--

BUT THE  
LOCKET'S STILL  
YOURS AND IT  
HOLDS  
MEMORIES AND  
YOU WANT IT BACK,  
RIGHT?

WELL,  
YES.



COME ON,  
SANTA. LET'S  
GO FIND IT.





BARRY?  
YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN?  
WHAT HAPPENED TO  
SANDRA?

WHO?

SANDRA.  
THE BLONDE  
YOU BROUGHT  
TO  
CLARENCE'S  
BIRTHDAY  
PARTY.



OH, HER FAITH, YOU STILL  
DON'T HAVE MY SPEED DOWN,  
DO YOU? AFTER ALL THIS TIME,  
THERE'S BEEN DALIA AND  
SHARON...OH YEAH, CLAIRE TOO,  
ALL OF THEM SINCE SANDRA.

STILL I HOPE  
SHE'S HAVING A HAPPY  
CHRISTMAS WHEREVER  
SHE IS.



I'VE CHANGED.  
I WANT TO BE  
A...AN O'DARE  
AGAIN.

WELL, I DON'T  
KNOW WHAT  
THAT MEANS  
EXACTLY, BUT  
ERR...MAY ALL  
YOUR WISHES  
HAPPEN.



MATTHEW.

FAITH, I BROUGHT  
A CAKE. I HOPE  
YOU DON'T MIND.

WHY  
SHOULD I  
MIND? BUT I MUST  
SAY, IT'S NOT LIKE  
YOU. YOU NEVER USED  
TO BRING ANY-  
THING TO FAMILY  
GATHERINGS. IN FACT  
HALF THE TIME YOU  
DIDN'T SHOW  
AT ALL.



AND YOU,  
HOPE, YOU  
LOOK  
WELL.

I JUST FINISHED  
READING WAR AND  
PEACE, FINALLY,  
AND I'M DATING  
MY FRENCH  
TUTOR.



MY  
AREN'T YOU  
THE LUCKY  
GIRL.





SO YOU DON'T KNOW WHO IT WAS ROBBED YOU? IT HAPPENED TOO FAST?

NO. I RECOGNIZED ONE OF THEM. DANNY TOLK. THE OTHERS WERE A BLUR.



YOU HEAR THAT? DANNY TOLK? IF YOU'VE SEEN HIM THERE'S TWENTY BUCKS FOR YOU.



TOLK TOL' ME HE WUZ OFTA WEST SIDE PITS.

PITS?

IT'S THE NAME WE HAVE FOR UNDERNEATH FORTH BRIDGE. THE FOUNDATIONS. THIS TIME OF YEAR THE WATER'S SO LOW, YOU CAN LIVE THERE. THERE'S A WHOLE ENCAMPMENT.



THANKS, OLD GUY. I SAID TWENTY, BUT HERE'S FORTY. WEATHER THIS COLD, YOU SHOULD BE INSIDE.

ONE OVEMS THAT'S WITH TOLK IS SURE UGLY. TELL YA THAT FO' FREE.



UGLY?

LIKE HE WUZ WEARIN' A MONSTER MASK.



OH.

RIGHT.

THANKS.

OH I SEE 'NIM DON'T HAVE 'IM LIE 'BOUT IT. NUNNO.





MASON.

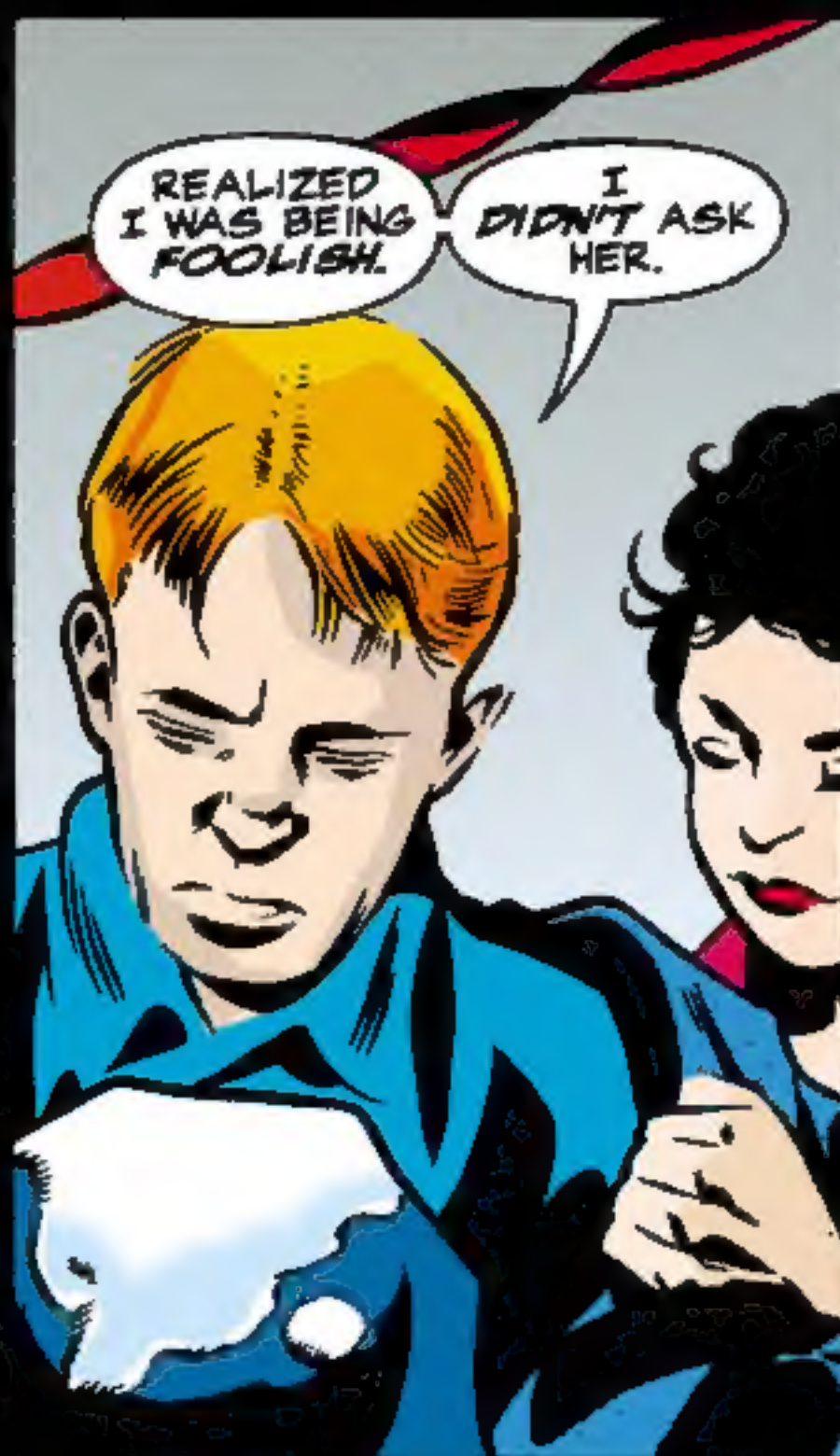
YOU'RE ALONE.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE BRINGING SOMEONE. A GIRL.



YEAH, THAT'S WHY YOU WERE GOING TO BE LATE.

CHANGED MY MIND.



REALIZED I WAS BEING FOOLISH.

I DIDN'T ASK HER.



OH.



WELL, THE FAMILY'S HERE.

WE'RE JUST WAITING FOR THE KNIGHTS AND THEN WE CAN START EATING.

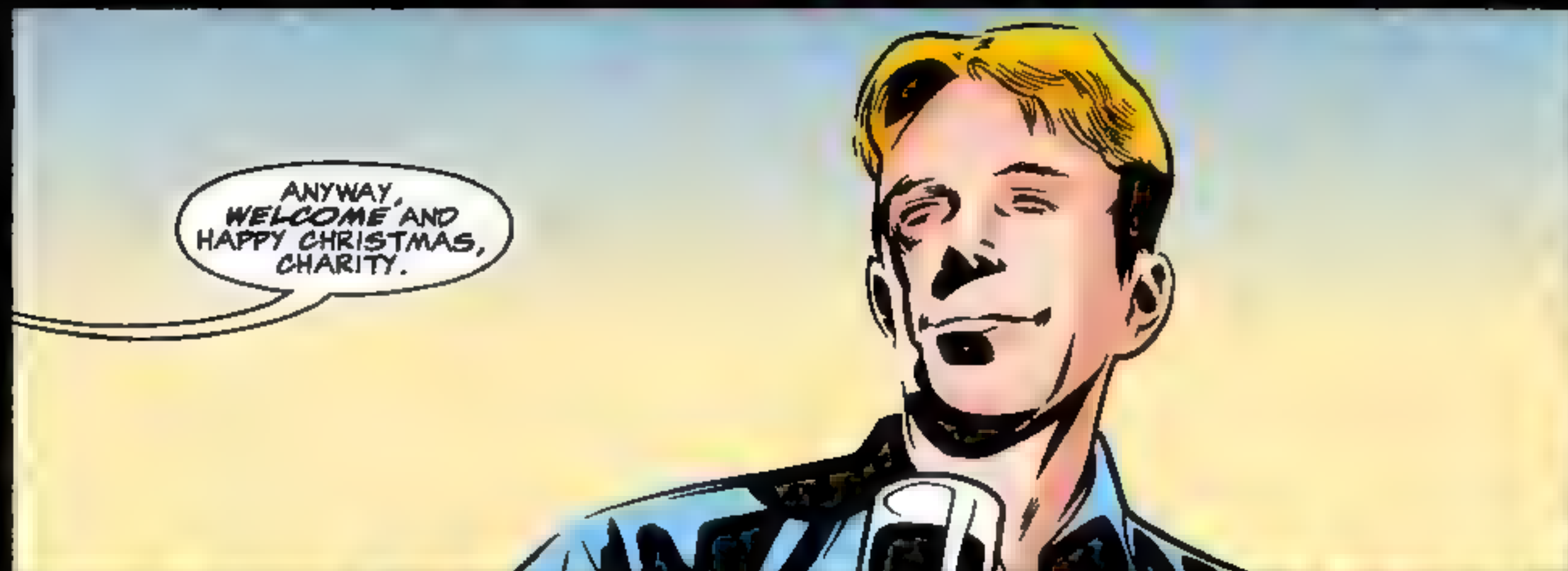
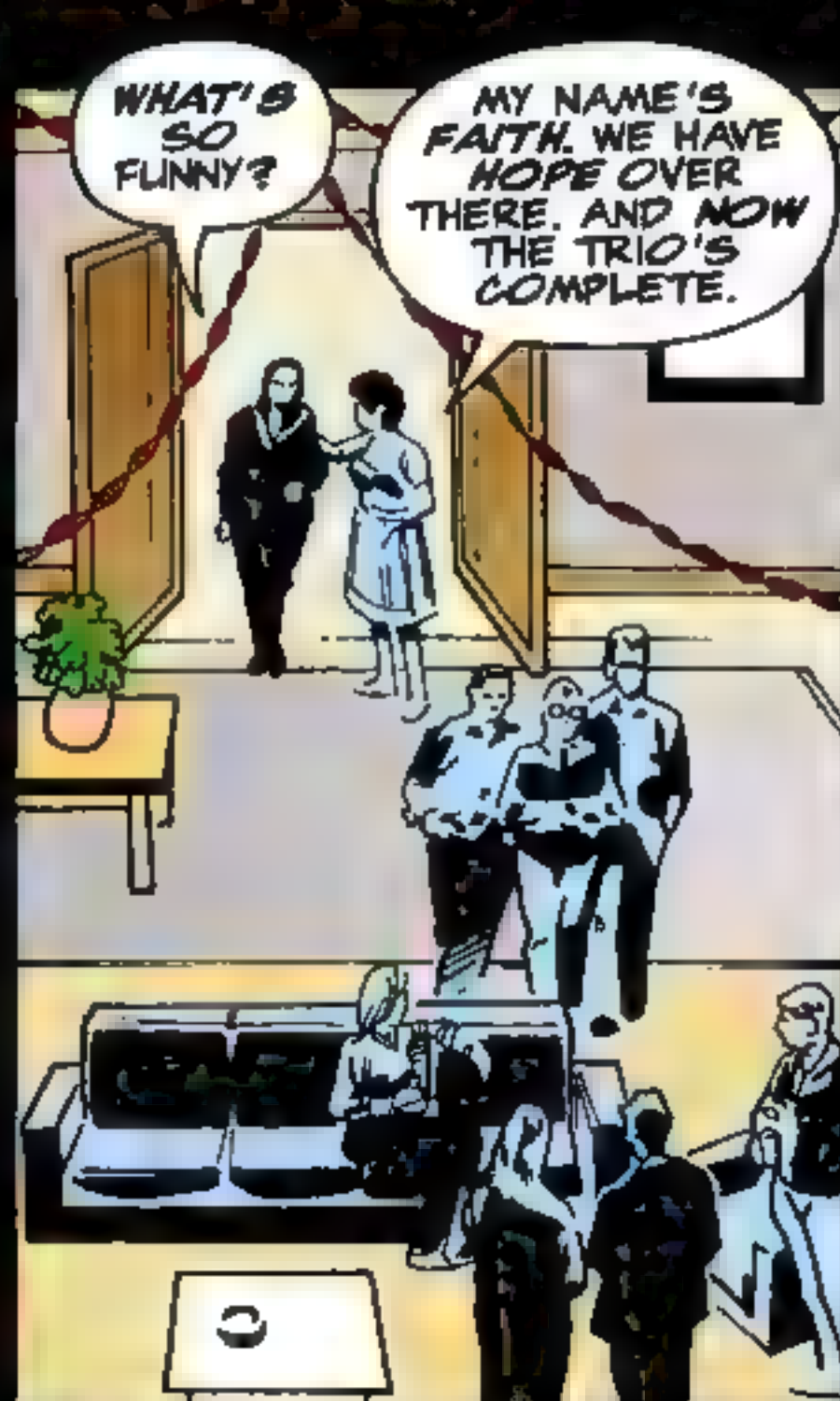
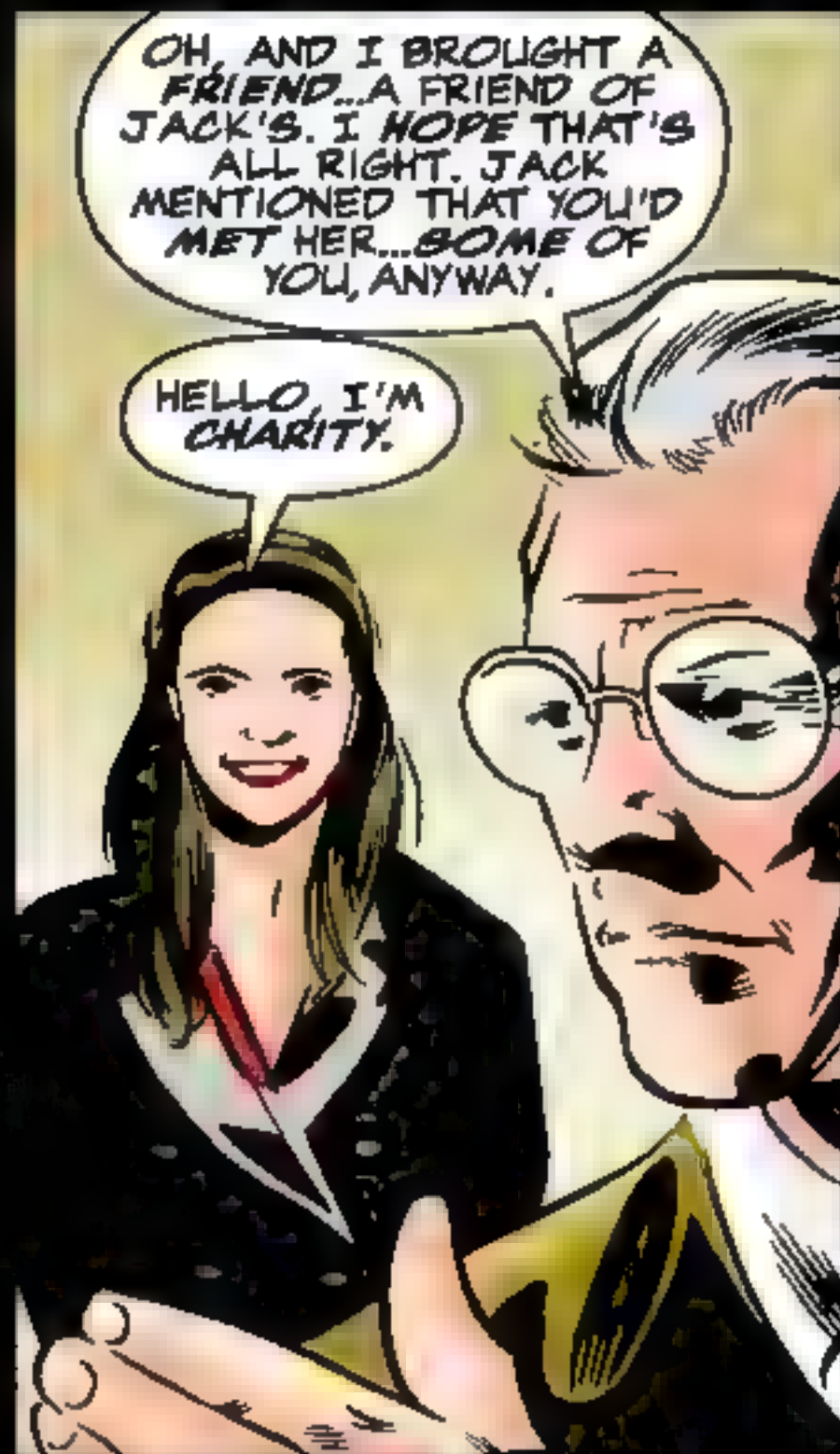


AND DON'T THINK I DON'T SEE YOU OVER IN THE CORNER, BARRY O'DARE. YOU LEAVE THAT CAKE FROSTING ALONE. IT'S FOR LATER. YOU'LL RUIN YOUR APPETITE.

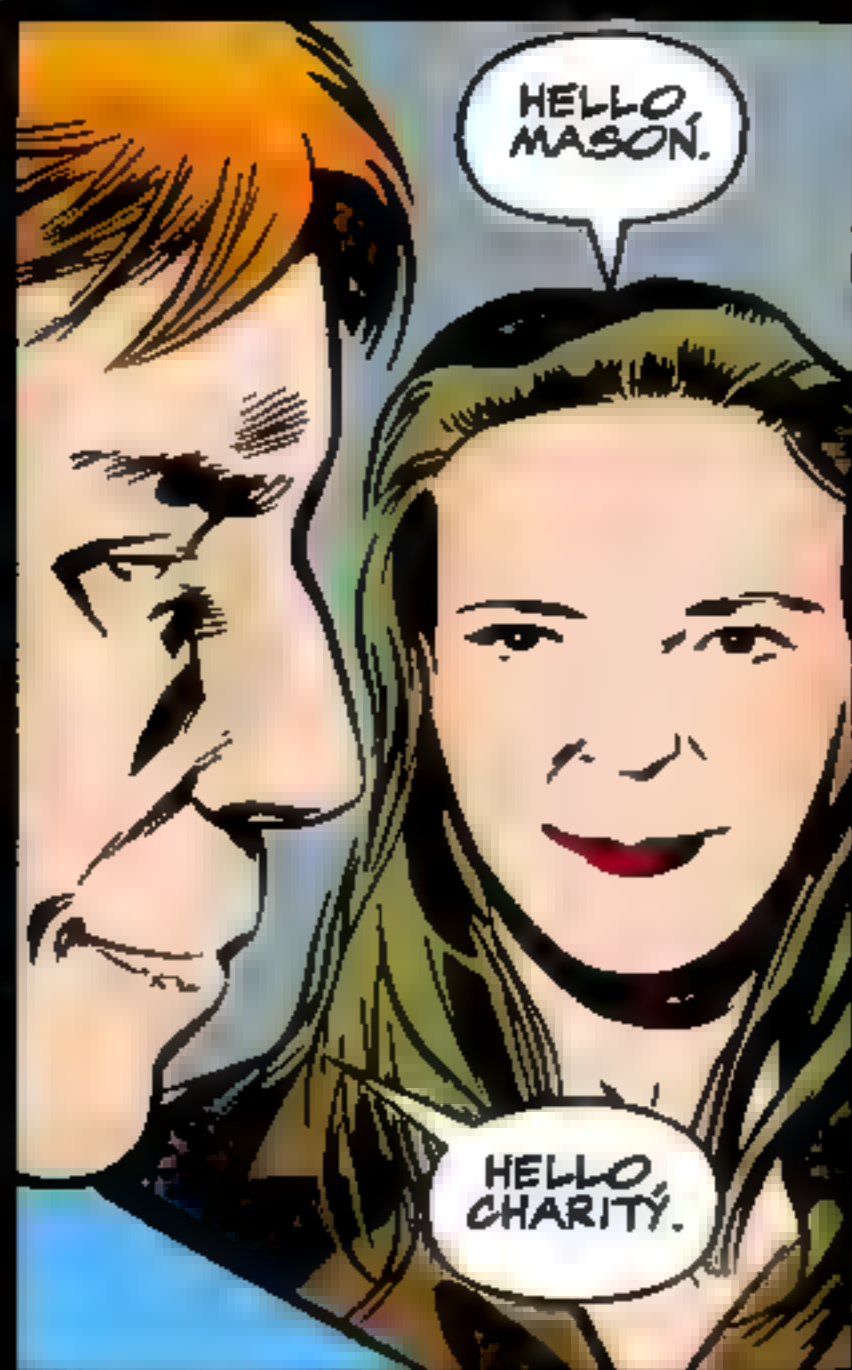
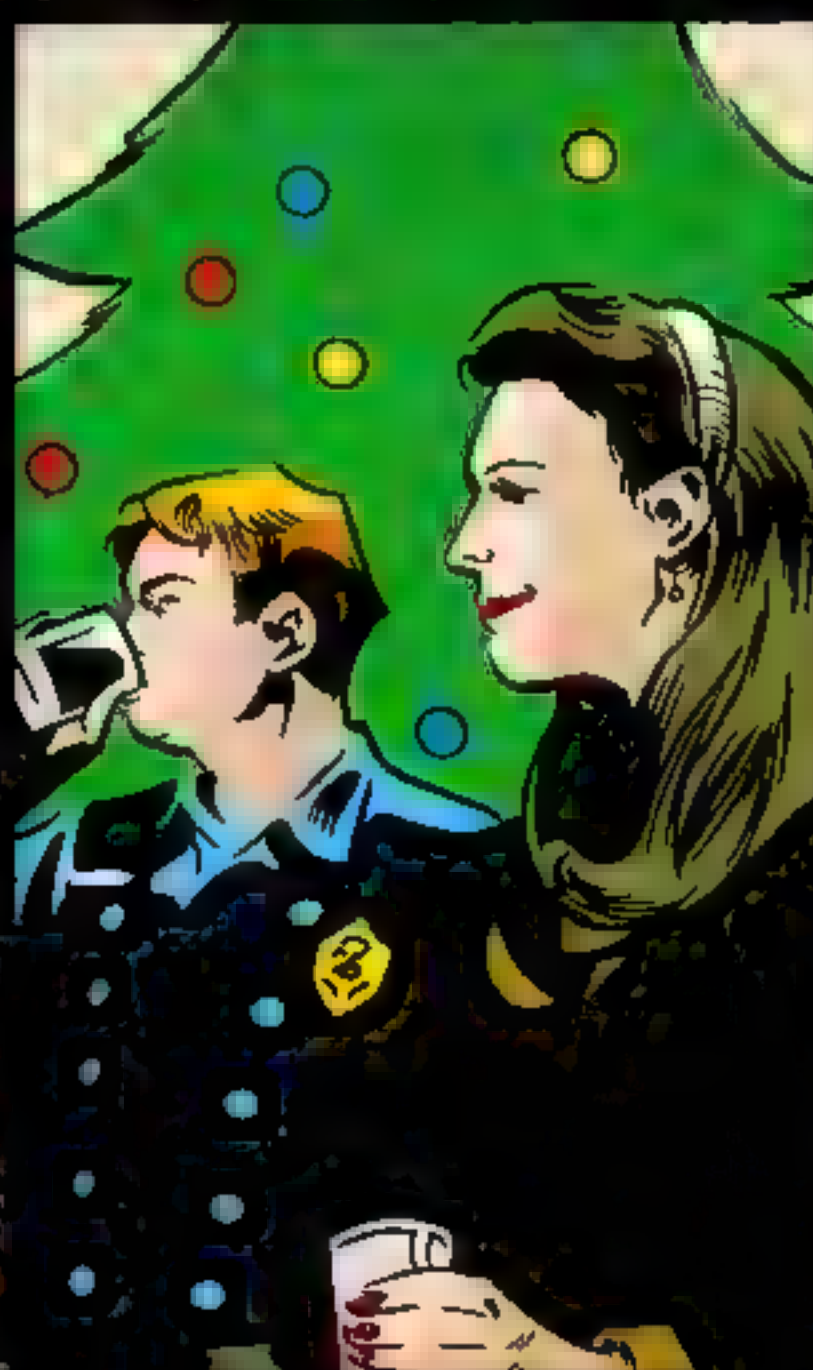
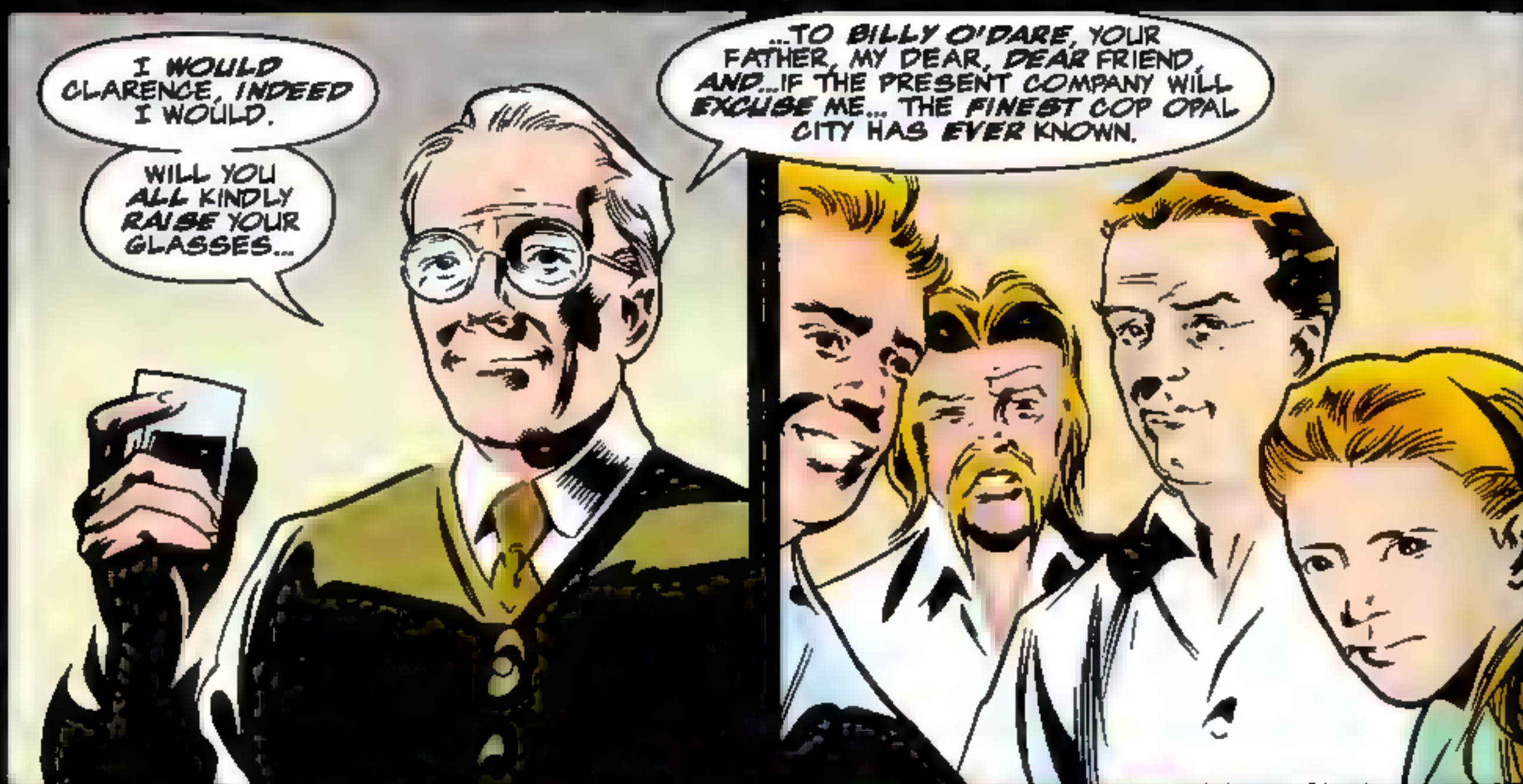
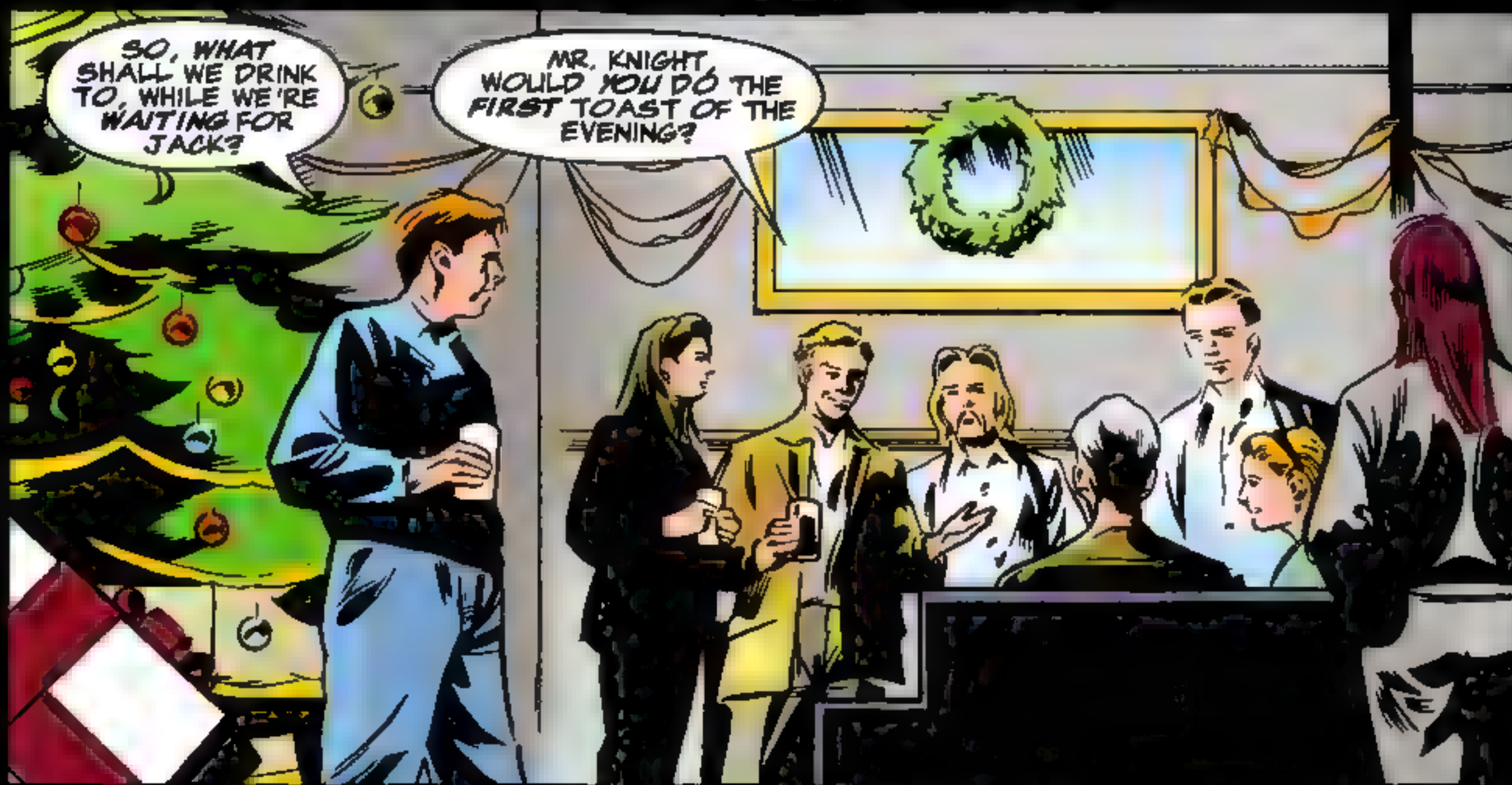












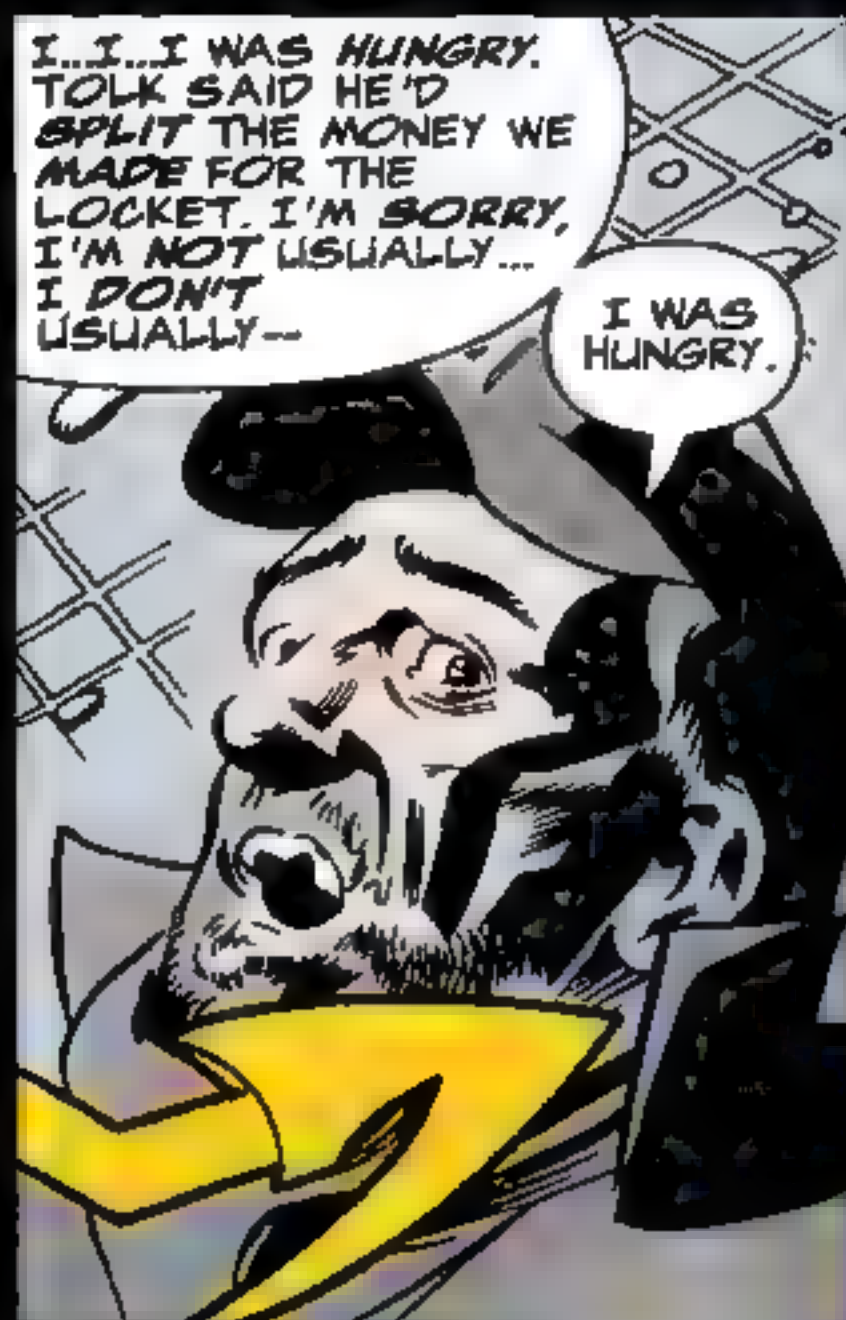




SO YOU WERE WITH TOLK WHEN HE JUMPED SANTA HERE?

YU YEAH. I WAS. I~

WHERE'S YOUR CHRISTMAS SPIRIT, HUH?



I...I...I WAS HUNGRY. TOLK SAID HE'D SPLIT THE MONEY WE MADE FOR THE LOCKET. I'M SORRY, I'M NOT USUALLY... I DON'T USUALLY--

I WAS HUNGRY.



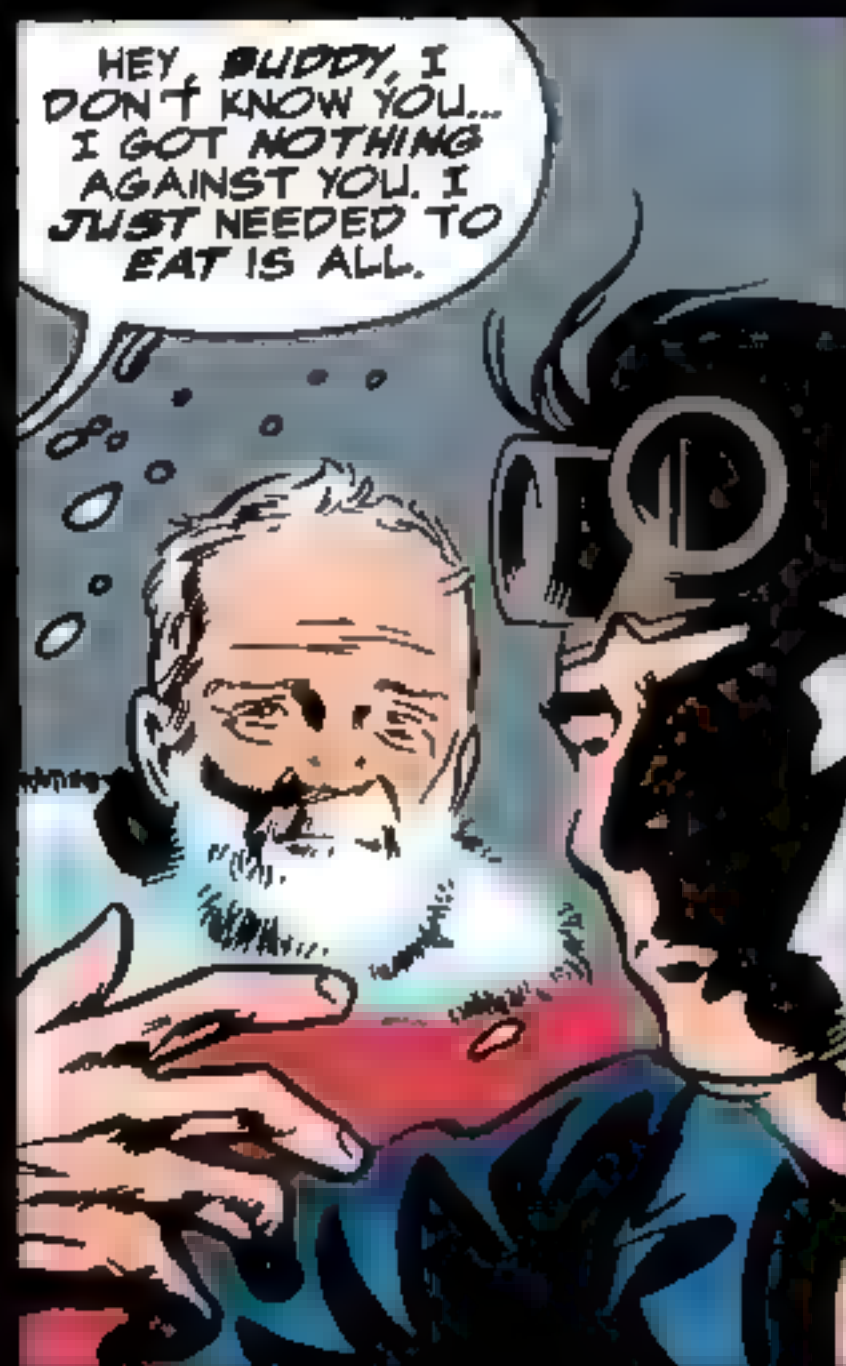
WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

TOLK SAID THAT HE WASN'T GOING TO SPLIT THE LOCKET WITH ME AFTER ALL.

AND WHAT DID YOU SAY TO THAT?



WHAT COULD I SAY? WITH THAT UGLY MOTHER STANDING NEXT TO TOLK. HE'S GOT A GUN, YOU KNOW? AND THAT FACE. AND HIS CRAB HAND. I WASN'T GOING TO ARGUE. NO. NOT THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN LEFT HOLDING THE STICKY END.

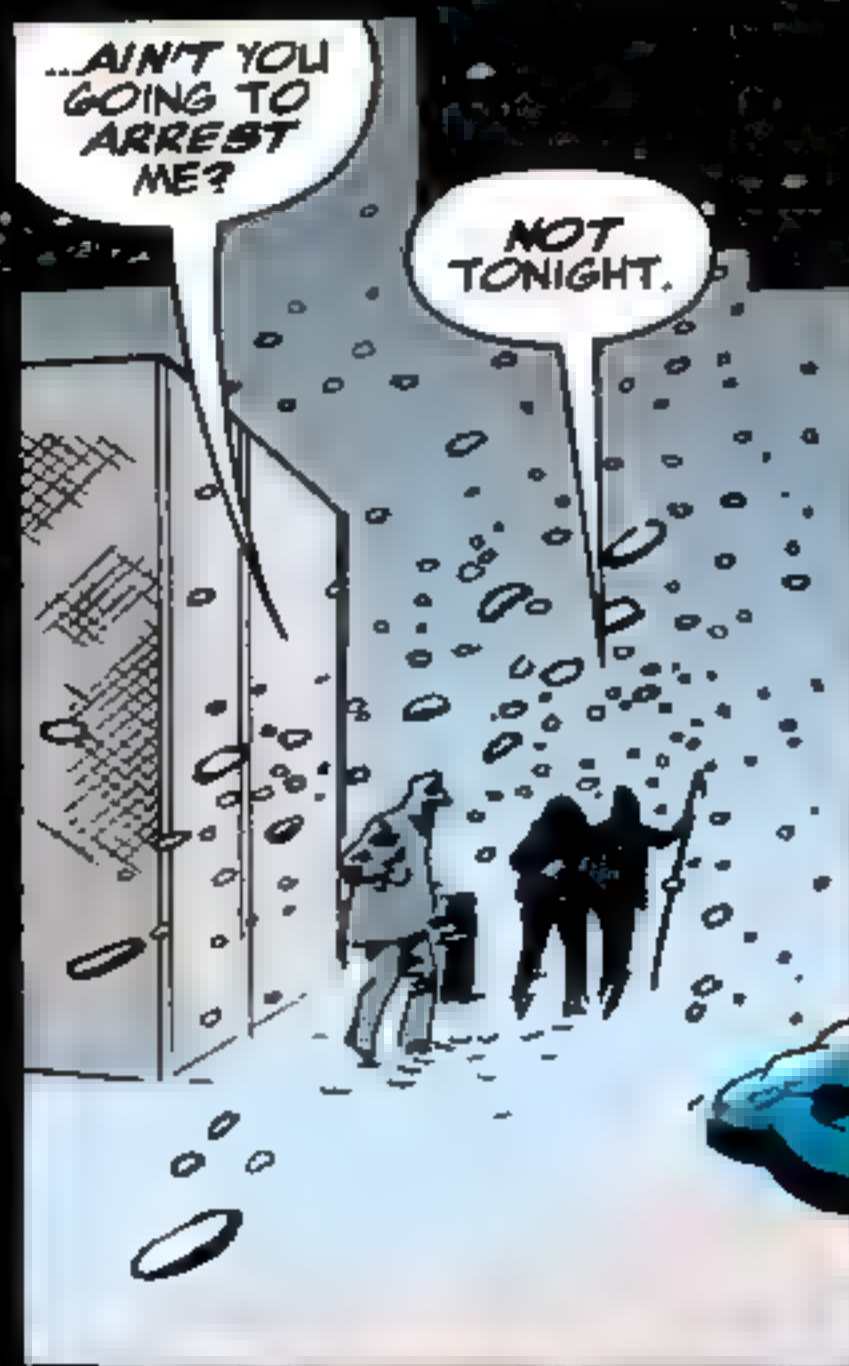


HEY, BUDDY, I DON'T KNOW YOU... I GOT NOTHING AGAINST YOU. I JUST NEEDED TO EAT IS ALL.



HERE. HERE'S A HUNDRED AND FIFTY BUCKS. I THINK THAT'S PROBABLY ENOUGH CASH FOR YOU TO TREAT EVERYONE HERE TO SOMETHING HOT, DON'T YOU?

YEAH. YEAH. 'N THANKS. YEAH, WE CAN ALL EAT ON THIS. BUT...



...AIN'T YOU GOING TO ARREST ME?

NOT TONIGHT.





I WONDER WHERE JACK IS.

ANY MORE TOASTING AND WE'LL ALL BE IN OUR CUPS. WE WON'T ENJOY OUR FOOD.

YES, WHERE IN HELL IS THAT BOY?

I WOULDN'T SAY THAT, TED. NOT EVEN IN JEST.



AFTER WHAT JACK, MATT AND I WENT THROUGH, I DON'T SEE THE HUMOR IN SUCH A REMARK.

SHADE!



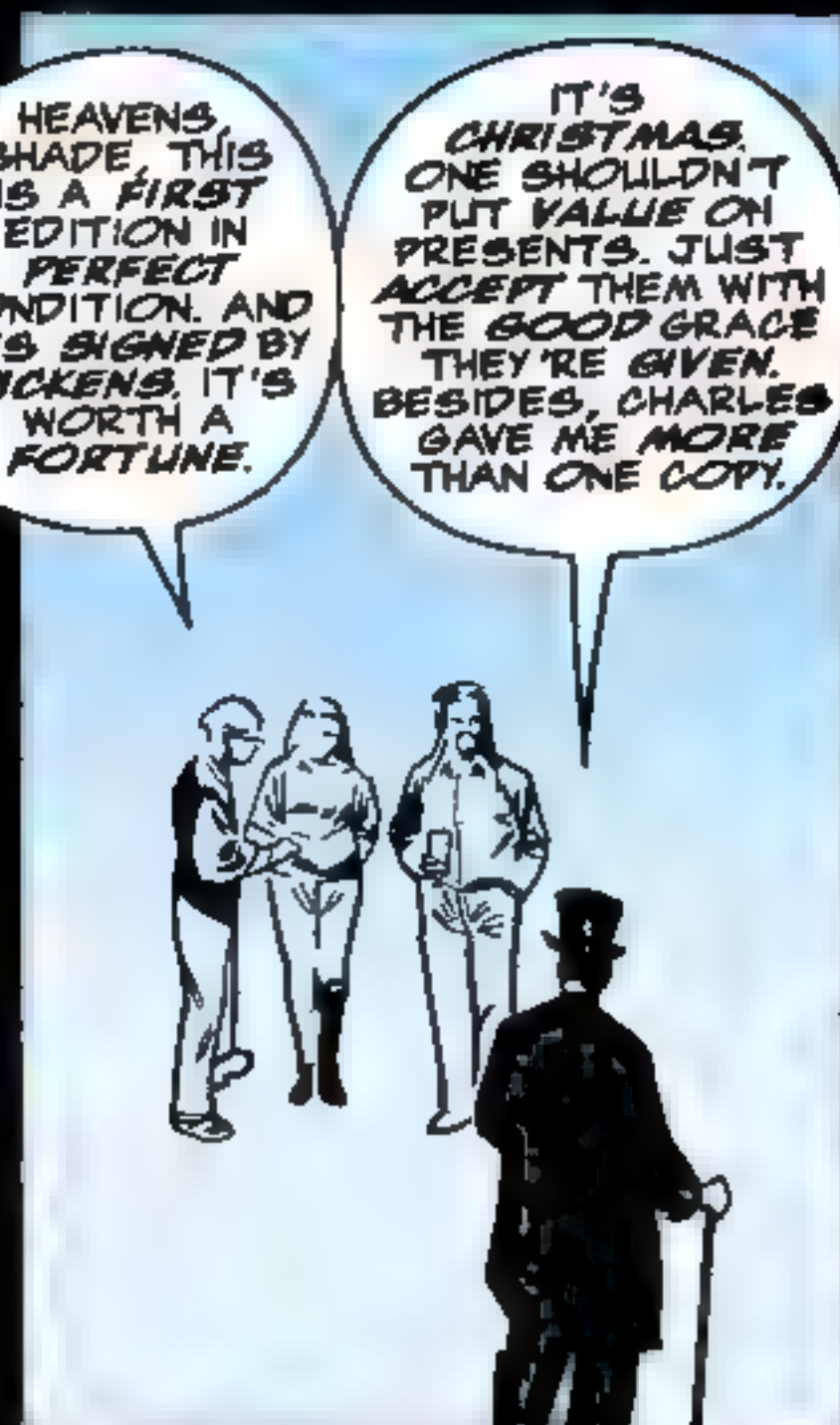
I KNOW I WASN'T INVITED, BUT I STILL CLING TO SOME LOVE OF THIS DAY AND AFTER THE EXPLOIT WE SHARED, I DO FEEL A CLOSENESS TO YOUR WILD IRISH CLAN.

I WON'T STAY, BUT I BROUGHT A GIFT. PERHAPS ONE OF YOU MIGHT LIKE TO READ FROM IT AFTER YOUR MEAL.



A CHRISTMAS CAROL.

YES, CHARLES WROTE GREATER WORKS, BUT NONE WITH SUCH A WONDERFULLY CRISP SIMPLICITY, AND SUCH CHARM.



HEAVENS, SHADE, THIS IS A FIRST EDITION IN PERFECT CONDITION. AND IT'S SIGNED BY DICKENS. IT'S WORTH A FORTUNE.

IT'S CHRISTMAS. ONE SHOULDN'T PUT VALUE ON PRESENTS. JUST ACCEPT THEM WITH THE GOOD GRACE THEY'RE GIVEN. BESIDES, CHARLES GAVE ME MORE THAN ONE COPY.



YOU'RE WELCOME TO STAY.

NO, I'M NOT GOOD AT GATHERINGS.

BUT MAY MY YULETIDE WISHES OF CHEER GO OUT TO YOU ALL.



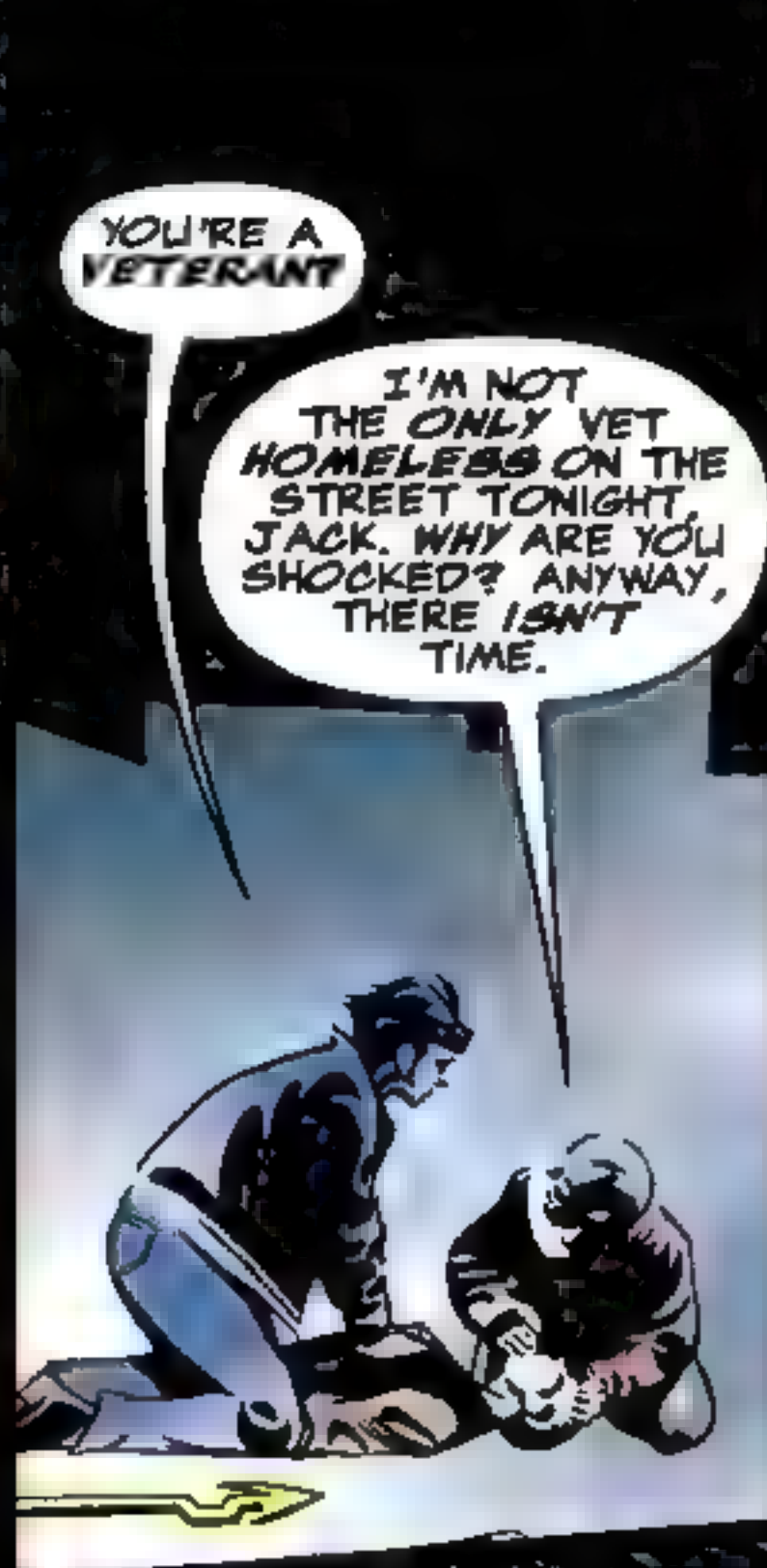
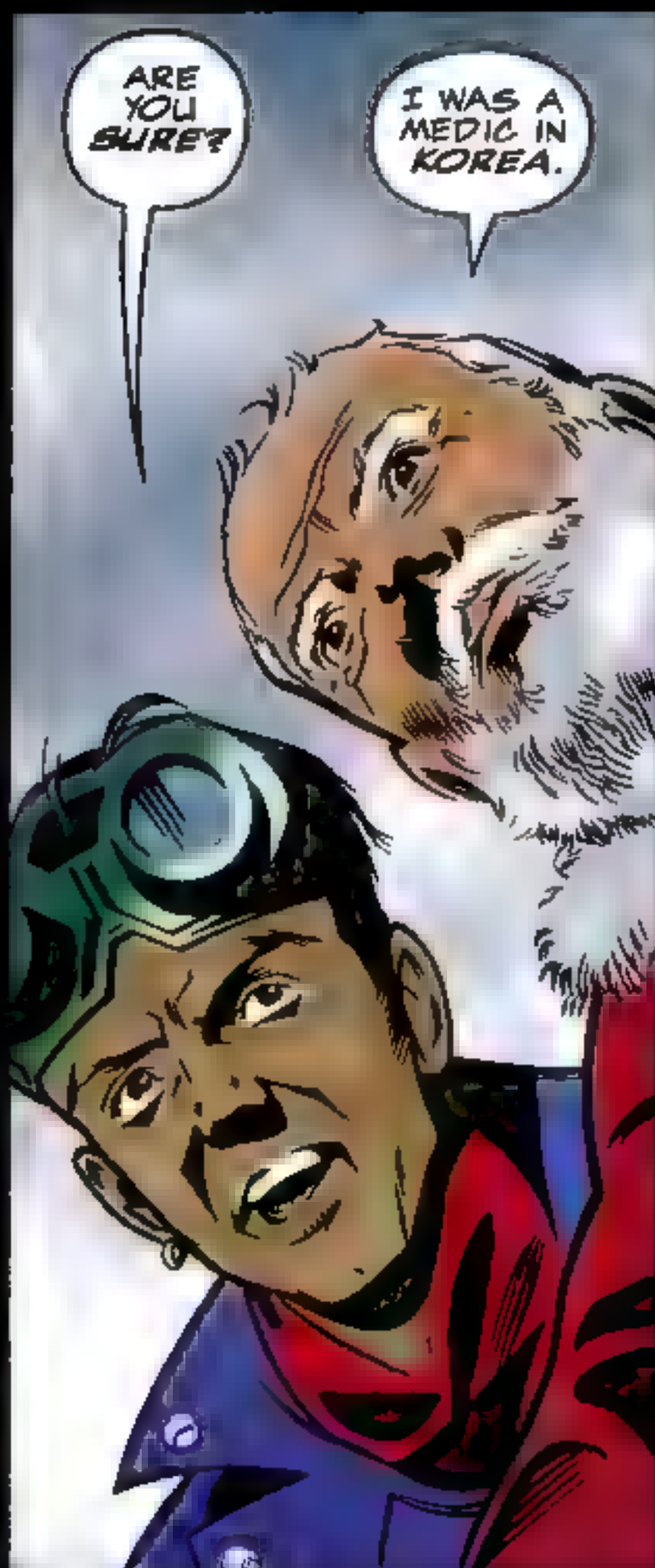
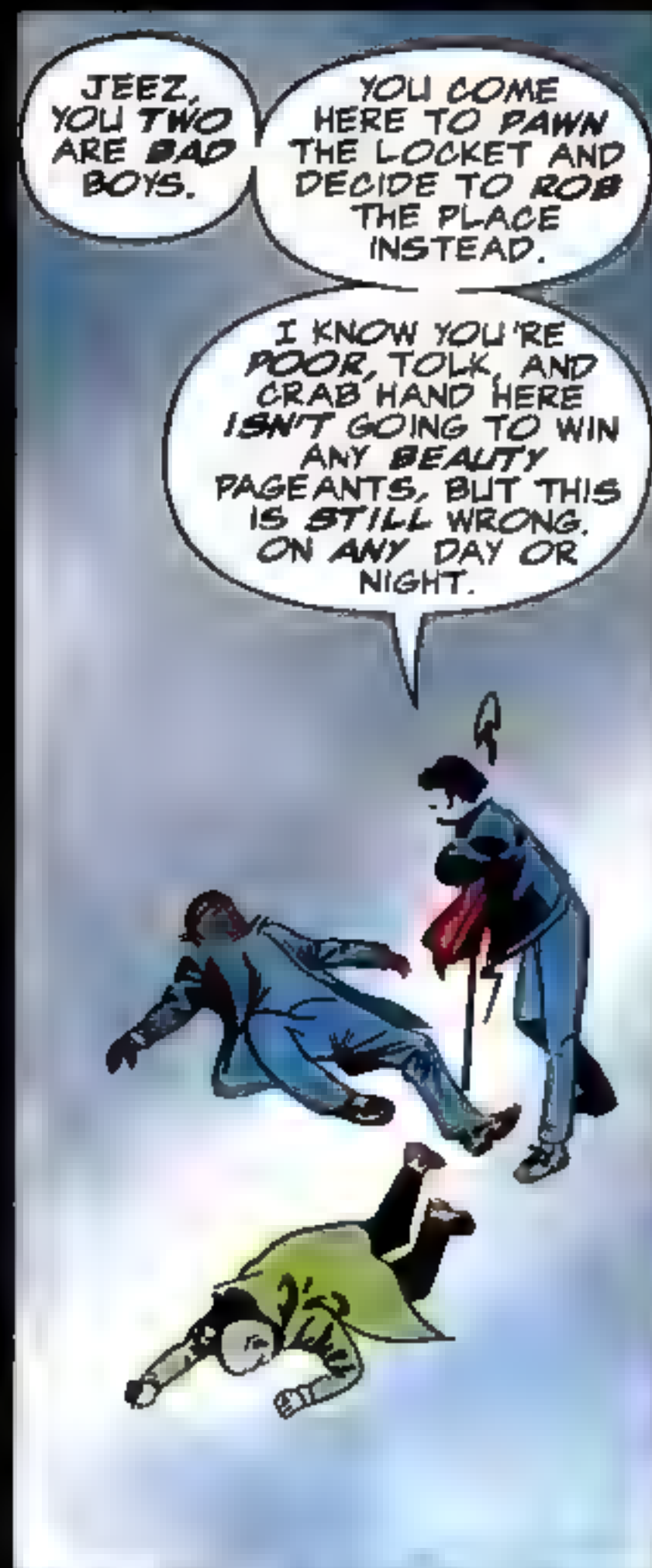
AND MATT, WE'LL TALK SOON.

YEAH, ADIOS, BUDDY.

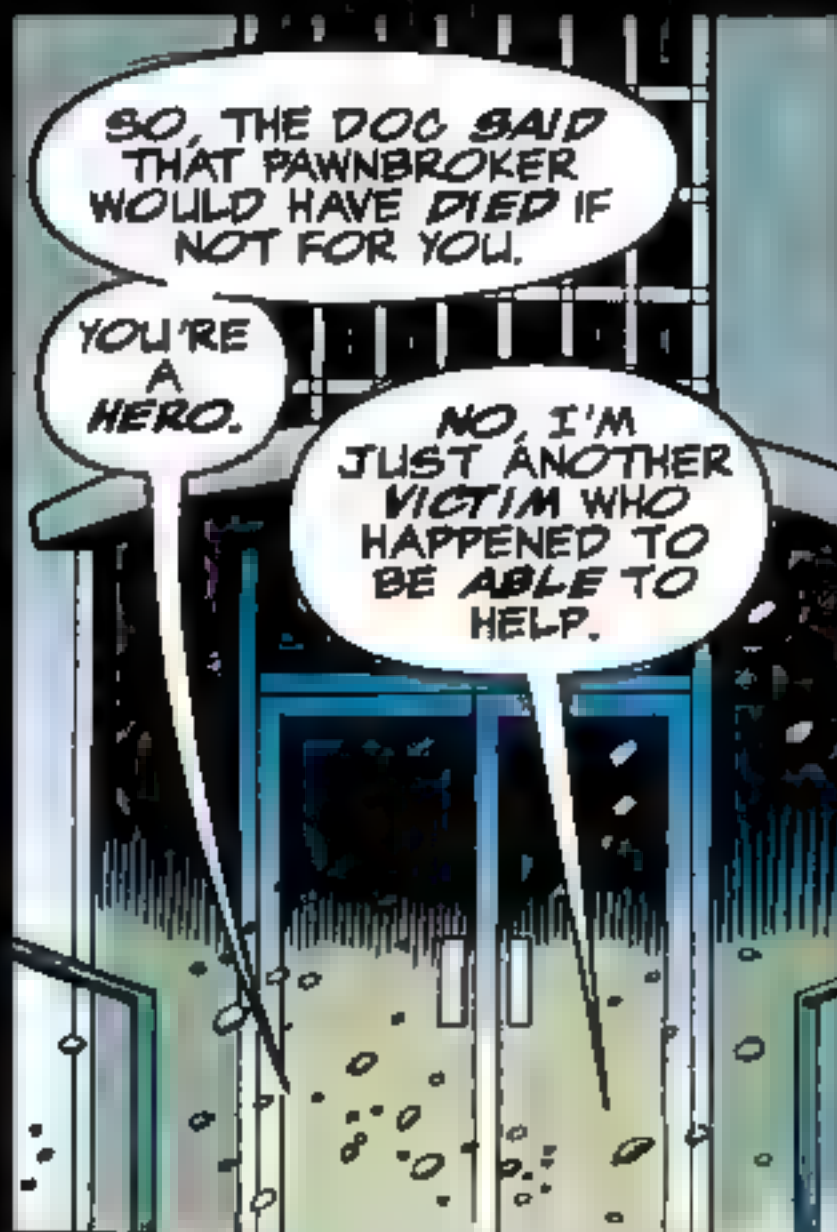












SO, THE DOC SAID THAT PAWNBROKER WOULD HAVE DIED IF NOT FOR YOU.

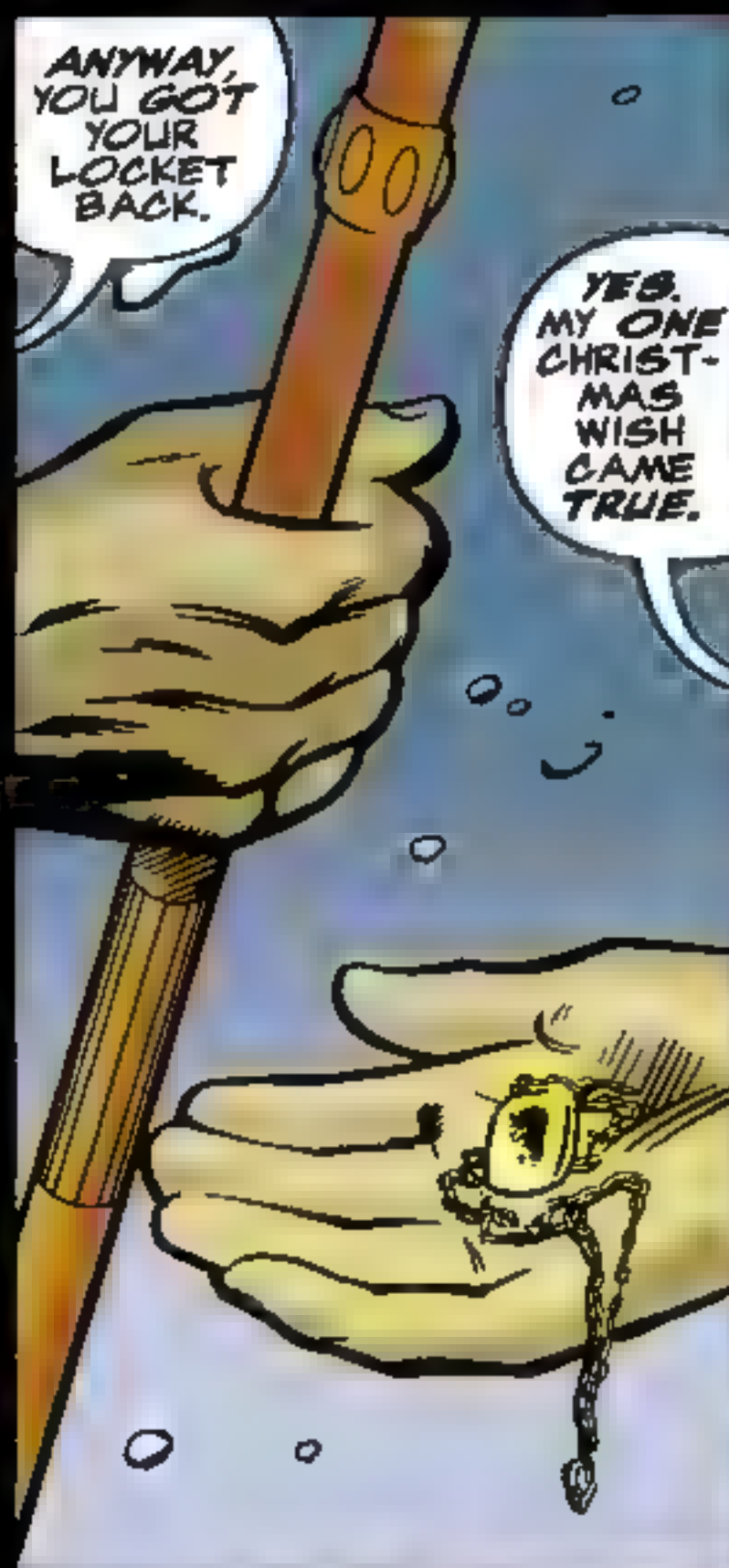
YOU'RE A HERO.

NO, I'M JUST ANOTHER VICTIM WHO HAPPENED TO BE ABLE TO HELP.



YOU'RE THE HERO. YOU GAVE ME YOUR WHOLE EVENING, AND YOU RISKED YOUR LIFE FOR THE BROKER.

SANTA, I'M ALMOST SCARED TO TELL YOU THAT I'M GETTING USED TO THAT KIND OF THING.



ANYWAY, YOU GOT YOUR LOCKET BACK.

YES. MY ONE CHRISTMAS WISH CAME TRUE.



LISTEN, I GAVE ALL MY MONEY AWAY IN THE COURSE OF THIS. I'D GIVE YOU A FEW BUCKS, BUT--

NO, JACK. I WOULDN'T ACCEPT IT. YOU'VE DONE MORE THAN ENOUGH.

I IMAGINE YOU'VE GOT PEOPLE TO SEE.

WELL... ERR... YEAH, ACTUALLY I HAVE.



THEN I'LL SAY GOOD-BYE. AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS, JACK, FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.

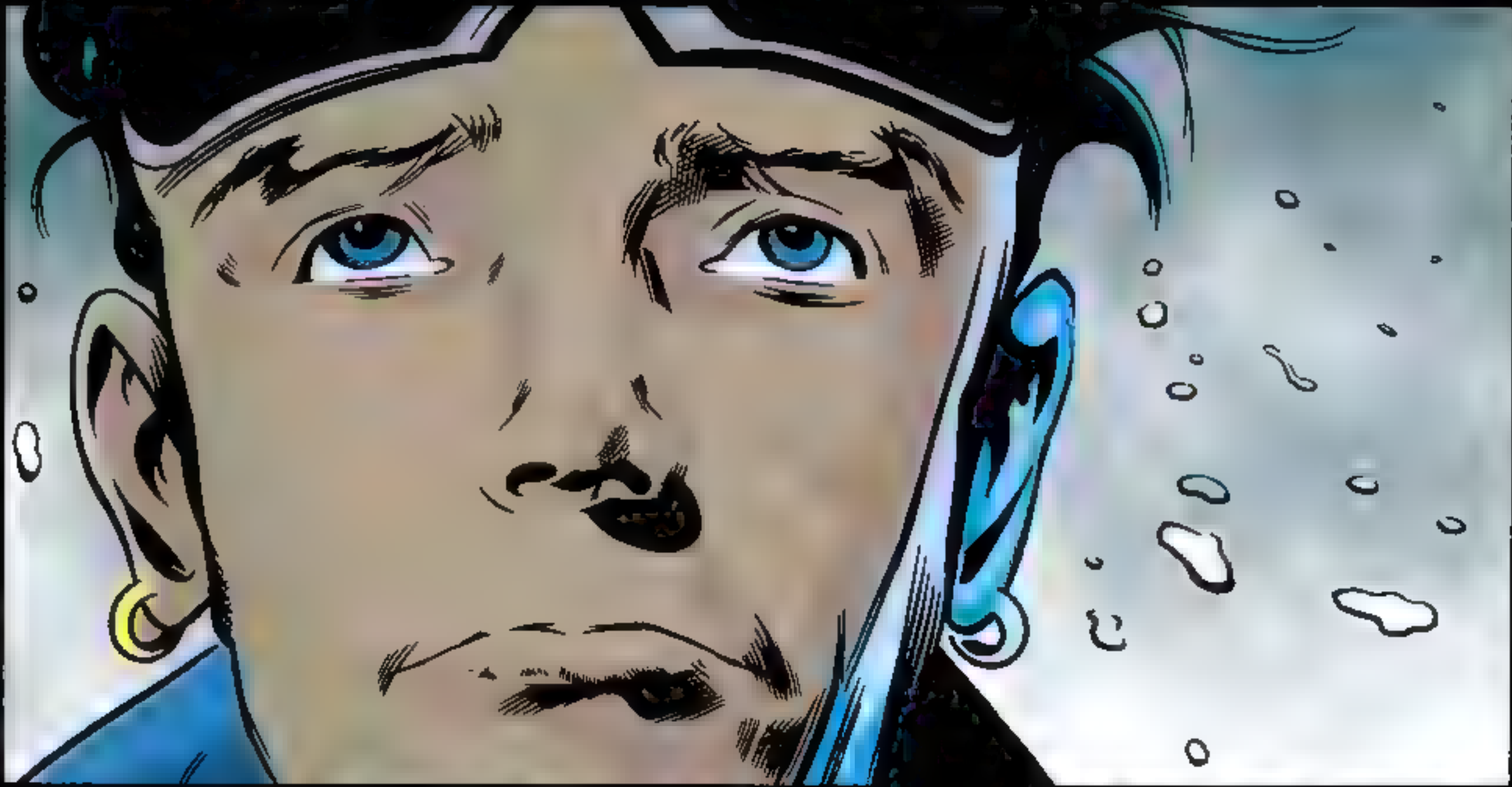
AND TO YOU, SANTA. GOOD LUCK. I HOPE YOU GET ON YOUR FEET.

I HOPE SO, TOO.



AND BY THE WAY... THE NAME'S PETE.









OH DEAR, THIS IS TERRIBLE.

IF JACK ISN'T HERE IN THE NEXT MINUTE OR SO, THE TURKEY WILL BE TOO DRY.



WHAT CAN BE KEEPING HIM?

HEY, I JUST THOUGHT YOU DON'T THINK SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO HIM?

BEING A SUPERHERO AND ALL, HE MIGHT 'A--



**DING DONG**



NO, THERE'S THE DOOR. THAT MUST BE HIM.

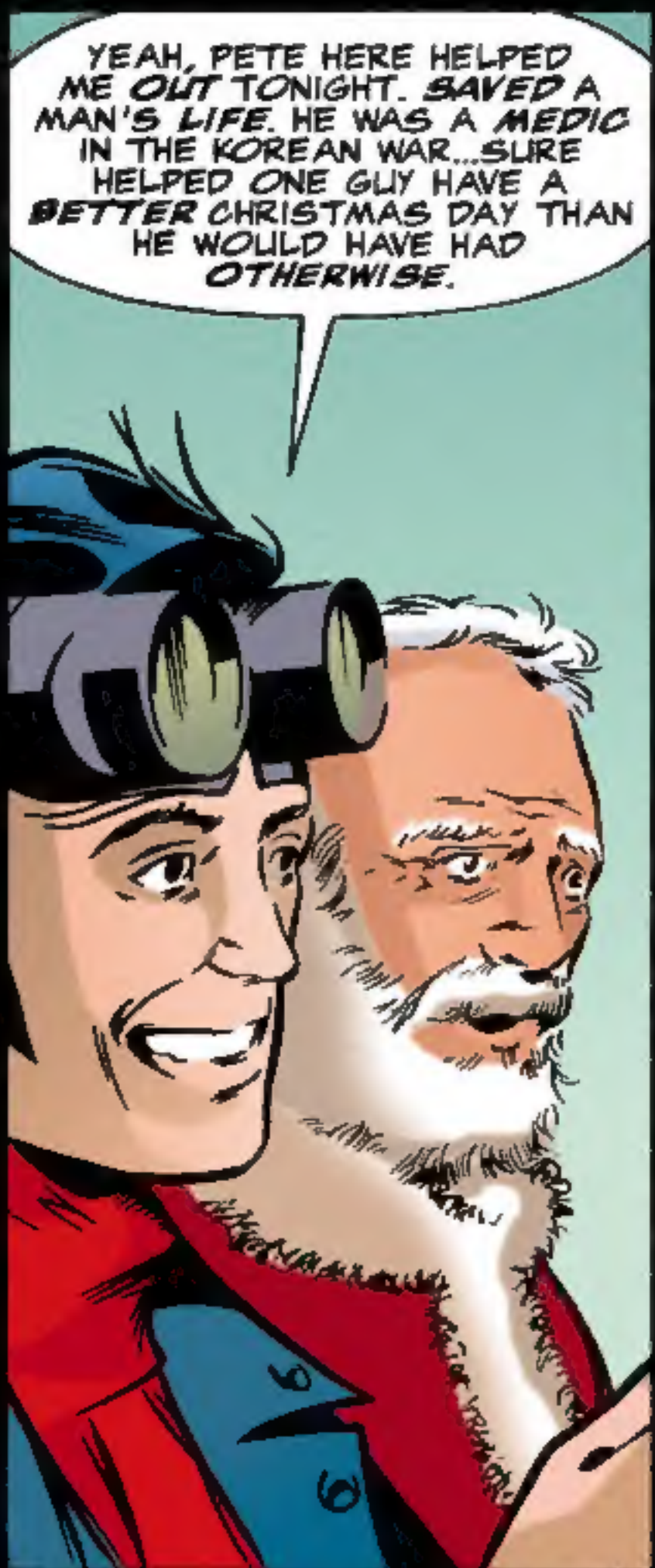
WELL, THEN GET HIM IN HERE AND LET'S GET EATING.

YEAH, I'M FAM--















# Deadman Wade

"THIS IS WHAT  
AWESOME  
LOOKS LIKE".

DCP